FBIS DAILY REPORT

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HAIG REMARKS ON FALKLANDS CONFLICT REPORTED

PY211459 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (DYN) -- Former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who in April 1982 carried out negotiations between Argentina and Great Britain with the objective of achieving a negotiated solution to the Malvinas conflict, has implied that "the Argentine decision (to initiate a conflict) was adopted some time before 2 April" and that "the military arrangements and plans were carefully drafted."

Haig noted that then Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez "was the most intransigent factor," who blocked the possibility of achieving a negotiated agreement, while "the most moderate, the most reasonable," was then Air Force commander Basilio Lami Dozo.

However, he noted that Argentine military commanders "could not accept the idea that all this would end in confrontation and bloodshed," so much so that "there were at least 20 people who had the right to say no" whenever there was a possibility of achieving an agreement."

Haig's statement is included in a lengthy exclusive interview granted to SIETE DIAS magazine, which published the interview in the issue that came out last night.

Costa Mendez Responds

PY211510 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (NA) -- Former Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez has categorically denied that he took part in the plans to recover the Malvinas Islands before he became foreign minister, as was stated by former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Costa Mendez noted: "Only a perjurer like Haig could make such a collection of lies."

Costa Mendez today responded to the charges made by Haig in an interview published in the latest issues of SIETE DIAS magazine by noting that "I have never heard such a collection of lies."

He added: I never intervened in the Malvinas issue before my appointment as foreign minister. The charge that I was involved in these plans prior to my appointment is completely false, and only a perjurer like Haig could say such a thing." Costa Mendez made these statements during an interview with Radio La Plata.

The former minister noted that he is not surprised that "this is what Haig thinks, because when he arrived in Argentina, he did so as the victorious general of an imperialist power that wanted to impose unjust and unacceptable solutions that were opposed to the national interests."

Costa Mendez also denied Haig's charge that the Foreign Ministry "had never favored a negotiated solution" and that it was "the most intransigent" during the war.

Costa Mendez added: "Haig wanted us to agree to a position that was completely unacceptable to Argentina, and one which I am sure is unacceptable to all Argentines."

He noted that this position "implied that we should return to the situation existing before 2 April, with the added factor that we had to accept the islanders decision about the future of the islands."

He added: "If we had accepted this, we would not even be discussing the Malvinas issue today because the islanders would have decided that they were British."

Costa Mendez said that "the intransigence Haig talks about, which was not mine, but that of the military junta, was not an unjust or arbitrary position, since it was meant to defend Argentina's rights."

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS NO ARMS SALES TO C.A.

PY210244 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1950 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said today that Argentina will not sell weapons to Central American countries. He made the announcement during brief remarks to reporters accredited to the San Martin Palace.

He declined to discuss the attitude adopted by previous administrations. He reiterated the announcement because, according to him, we cannot try to preserve peace with one hand and sell weapons with the other. The position of the current government is very clear, he concluded.

The minister was questioned on this matter while he was reporting on the objectives of an Argentine visit to the Contadora Group countries.

He said that although no date has yet been set for his trip, he would travel to those countries before March 1984. He explained that the objective of his trip is to gather information and listen to the opinions of each Contadora group country -- Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, and Mexico -- on the Central American situation.

Caputo refused to comment on the Argentine position before traveling to the region; therefore, he did not discuss the possibility that Argentina may very soon become a Contadora Group member. Caputo said that Argentina supports the group, and that the final decision will depend on his visit, during which he will gain insight regarding the situation.

Before traveling to Central America, Caputo will travel to Quito, Ecuador, where the special commission for trade and financing will hold a meeting, to be attended by the countries of the continent, from 9 to 14 January 1984.

No assurances can be given that President Raul Alfonsin will be able to attend the meeting, as he would have liked; nonetheless, the decision will be made in the next few days.

Caputo is also scheduled to travel to Venezuela, where he will be accompanying President Alfonsin to the inauguration ceremony of 12 March 1984.

Concerning his visit to the Contadora Group nations, Caputo will investigate ways of allowing Argentina to join the group, on the basis of the interest of the other members in Argentina's will to cooperate.

At noon today, Caputo attended a luncheon at the FRG Embassy. FRG Ambassador Paul Verbeek and the ambassadors of Greece, Denmark, the Netherlands, Italy, France, Belgium, and Ireland also attended. They addressed matters having to do with relations between Argentina and the European community. The Argentine side stressed its position regarding the restrictions imposed by the Europeans, and pointed out the need to promote trade.

Bilateral and international political issues were also discussed in a frank manner. The Malvinas and South Atlantic islands issue was also discussed.

DEFENSE MINISTRY APPROVES ARMY, NAVY APPOINTMENTS

PY212347 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1202 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (DYN) -- Appointments to top-ranking posts in the Army and Navy have already been approved by the Defense Ministry, and those officers who have been promoted to these posts will assume their duties before the end of the month.

In the Army, Generals Mario Aguado Benitez, Teofilo Saa, Alberto Schollaert, and Mario Davico will be appointed commanders of the I, II, III, and V corps, respectively, while it is believed that the recently created IV corps will be dissolved and its units again made part of the original corps to which they belonged.

In the Navy, Rear Admiral Raul Alberto Marino will be Navy deputy chief of staff, a recently established post and the second most important position in the Navy hierarchy.

Rear Admiral Maximo Rivero Kelly has been appointed naval attache to the United States and Canada, and delegate to the Inter-American Defense Board; Rear Admiral Barry Melbourne Hussey has been appointed Navy secretary; and Rear Admiral Norman Azcoitia has been appointed general director of Navy Personnel.

Regarding the Army, it was learned that General Braulio Sanchez Avalos will be appointed Army inspector general, a post equivalent to that of the present commander of military institutes, a position that will cease to exist.

The post of secretary general of the Army will also be abolished. It will be replaced by the position of Army under secretary general, which will be held by General Enrique Otino.

General Ricardo Pianta will be appointed deputy Army chief of staff and General Guillermo Fonseca, the present cavalry commander, has been appointed chief of Army Personnel.

General Hector Rios Erenu will be head of military households, while General Augusto Alemanzor, who recently retired, will reportedly be appointed director of military industries, an organization that will be directly subordinated to the Defense Ministry.

The generals who will hold the top-ranking Army posts were promoted to that rank in 1980, with the exception of the present head of the joint chiefs of staff, Julio Fernandez Torres, and General Alemanzor, who were promoted in 1979.

ECONOMY MINISTER VIEWS DEBT, SALARY ISSUES

FY211215 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1305 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (DYN) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun admitted today that Argentina will refinance "as much of its foreign debt as necessary," and announced that the exchange rate will be "floated" for imports and exports, but not for tourism and capital resources. Argentina's foreign debt is now hovering at about $42 billion.

The head of the Finance Palace anticipated the reversal of his predecessor Jorge Wehbe's decision to raise from 3 per thousand to 6 per thousand the portion of tax revenues apportioned for payment of extra salaries to employees in the Economy Ministry.

The head of the government's economic team made lengthy statements to the newspaper ABMITO FINANCIERO, noting that the authorities are willing to sign an interim agreement with the IMF, and are determined to fight inflation. He said: "The IMF has to consider a reality: The country faces a particular situation. We are thinking of negotiating with the IMF, and we are determined to fight inflation harder, perhaps, than the IMF demands."

Grinspun continued, saying that "we will carry out this fight with or without the IMF, whether we sign an interim agreement or not, because we have an idea of how to fight inflation and how to fight it without bringing about recession."

After stating that he "was not afraid" of signing such an agreement, Grinspun said that "given the amount of our debt, $1 or $2 billion more makes no difference."

He then added: "We believe we have $14 billion in loan-principal payments due, and $4 or $5 billion in loan-interest payments due, plus a couple of billion dollars in arrears. I believe that Argentina's obligations for 1984 amount to $20 billion, with a $3.5 billion trade balance surplus. If we want to build up foreign reserves, which are quite low compared with the import-export balance, we can set aside $500 million, which leaves $3 billion remaining to meet our payment obligations. Subtracting $3 billion from $20 billion, we are left with $17 billion that we must refinance."

In response to a question, the minister said that he could not yet evaluate the negotiations which Central Bank President Enrique Garcia Vazquez began this past weekend in the United States.

Replying to another question, this time on the 40-day price freeze imposed by the government, Grinspun ironically said that "before the freeze was imposed, prices took a 100-day long jump."

Answering yet another question, the minister said that "we want enterprises to have more profits, and this can be done by increasing real salaries to create more effective demand, because otherwise the GDP [gross domestic product] will continue to fall."

As for the recent salary increase, Grinspun noted that "we have not given as much as people want, because an increase in excess of 1,000 pesos would have triggered an inflationary cycle, with subsequent lowering of real salaries. I know that it was insufficient, but we cannot give more, because the enterprises we contacted told us that they could absorb that much in salary increase costs. That's what they told us. Let us work on the assumption that this is true, and that they will do so."

Regarding public service fees, the economy minister pointed out that "the costs" for state enterprises providing those services are "an unknown quantity," adding that those enterprises "raise their fees in accordance with an index. We are drafting an audit law to apply to state enterprises, because we are going to reduce their size."

As for possible "administrative streamlining" directed at public servants, Minister Grinspun categorically stated that "I will not dismiss anyone. I will just move people around."

FORMER ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ARRESTED, SANCTIONED

PY212343 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 20 Dec 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Official sources report that retired Major General Edgardo Calvi, former head of the Army General Staff, and a colonel in charge of the Protocol Department were arrested yesterday. They were sanctioned for extending invitations to former Army Commanders Jorge Rafael Videla and Roberto Viola to attend the ceremony in which General Jorge Arguindegui was installed as new chief of staff.

The sources indicated that Calvi was sanctioned with a 3-day period of confinement and that the colonel, whose name was not given, with a 20-day sentence.

According to official sources, President Alfonsin reacted with "marked displeasure" to the presence of Videla and Viola, who are two of the military leaders against whom the constitutional government decided to take legal action in view of the serious human rights violations committed during their terms.

Military sources tried to justify the presence of Viola and Videla at the ceremony last Friday on the grounds that they, as former army commanders, were invited in keeping with the rules of protocol.

FORMER CNEA HEAD DENIES KIDNAPPING ACCUSATIONS

PY220238 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Dec 83 p 11

[Text] Buenos Aires (NA) -- The former head of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), retired Vice-Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, yesterday denied accusations made by former CNEA nuclear technician Maximo Victoria that he "was aware of" past kidnappings and detentions of CNEA employees, Victoria's included.

Castro Madero told the press that under his administration, lab personnel were never "subject to pressure nor to threats of any kind," and that whenever he became aware of an employee's detention, he always initiated the necessary procedures "so that once the case was cleared-up, that person would be freed."

Victoria, however, said he and seven other CNEA scientists were kidnapped, detained by executive decree, and eventually allowed to leave the country. The case of scientist Antonio Misetich, Victoria added, was not so fortunate because, though Castro Madero had assured the former's release from military prison, Misetich instead disappeared.

The technician, who left for Europe in 1976 after being held for 20 days, and who only recently returned to the country, said Castro Madero was also aware of a CNEA meeting shortly after the 1976 coup d'etat during which CNEA personnel were told that those not following the doctrine of the military process might "pay dearly" as a result.

MONTONERO LEADERS RETURN; ARRESTS REPORTED

PY202202 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1752 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (NA) -- Ricardo Obregon Cano and Oscar Bidegain, former governors during the Peronist administration, returned to Argentina this afternoon. Federal Judge Oscar Mario Salvi ordered the immediate detention of Obregon Cano, who was arrested and taken to the judge's office for interrogation.

Obregon Cano and Bidegain arrived at Ezeiza Airport at 1315 on a regularly scheduled Varig flight coming from Brazil. Some 300 people who had gathered at the airport's parking lot greeted them with shouts of "Montoneros" and banners referring to the Montoneros group and the Justicialist Party.

Immediately after his arrival, Obregon Cano was detained by aeronautical police personnel, who took him to a Ford Falcon parked on the airstrip; plainclothes personnel were waiting inside the car.

It was learned that the detention of the former governor of Cordoba was ordered by Judge Salvi, who also ordered that Obregon Cano be immediately taken to his office in downtown Buenos Aires for interrogation.

On the other hand, no warrant for the arrest of the former governor of Buenos Aires was issued. Bidegain had no difficulty in traveling to a downtown office, where he released a statement hours later.

The two leaders, who returned to Argentina after more than 9 years in exile, were received by Ricardo Obregon Cano Jr and by attorney Carlos Miguel Junkkel, a former national deputy and a member of the two leaders' advisory team.

The demonstrators who received the Montonero leaders caused no incidents, and agreed to a request from the airport authorities to clear an area where traffic had been interrupted. Some of the demonstrators were waving banners with the inscription "the blood that was shed will not be negotiated."

Arrest of Bidegain Denied

PY211300 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0240 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (NA) -- Unofficial federal police sources denied tonight that former Buenos Aires Governor Oscar Bidegain has been detained. His detention has been confirmed by Peronist Youth [JP] leaders.

The denial contradicts a report released by police sources stating that the former Buenos Aires governor has been detained by order of Federal Judge Ciro de Martini.

Despite these statements, the federal police did not release any official report on the alleged detention of the Peronist leader.

Moreover, JP spokesmen, belonging to the Dante Gullo faction, announced that a rally will be held tonight in front of the Federal Security Superintendency to protest the detention of former Cordoba Governor Ricardo Obregon Cano.

[Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 1221 GMT on 21 December reports that the federal police have officially confirmed that Oscar Bidegain is not under arrest. The federal police report adds that former Cordoba Governor Ricardo Obregon Cano is under arrest pending a decision by Federal Judge Ciro de Martini.]

Brazil Said 'Meddling'

PY220244 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2347 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (NA) -- Federal Judge Ciro de Martini today requested the Foreign Ministry's intervention in what he described as "unacceptable meddling in Argentina's internal affairs," a reference to a request he received from Brazilian congressmen for the immediate release of "opposition leader Obregon Cano, who has been unjustly detained."

This was reported by court sources, which noted that De Martini submitted to the Foreign Ministry today a photocopy of the request signed by 15 federal legislators of Brazilian opposition blocs.

The sources noted that De Martini reported this to Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, "so that he can take whatever action he may deem appropriate."

The legislators who signed the petition have been staying in Argentina since last Tuesday, and arrived on the same Varig plane that brought former Governors Oscar Bidegain and Ricardo Obregon Cano from Sao Paulo.

MONTONERO MOVEMENT DISSOLVED; DOCUMENT RELEASED

PY211245 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2211 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (TELAM) -- This afternoon former Buenos Aires Governor Oscar Bidegain announced, at a press conference, the dissolution of the Peronist Montonero Movement, and the revival of the Authentic Party created in 1975, which is -- according to the document released to the press -- the expression of the historic and liberationist Peronist Party.

"I have the pleasure of addressing the media of my country," said Bidegain at the beginning of his conversation with journalists in the headquarters of the organization of Peronist Relatives of Detainees, Missing People, and Martyrs of Repression, 68 Talcahuano Street, in this capital.

Upon summarizing the document, which is later read, Bidegain said that the party proposes the integration of many Argentines abroad, who are willing to make a contribution to the Argentine reorganization, recovery, and strengthening of the democratic system.

The former governor then read the document addressed to the Argentine people, signed by Mario Eduardo Firmenich, Roberto Perdia, Ricardo Obregon Cano, Fernando Vaca Narvaja, and Oscar Bidegain himself.

The document says: "In view of the serious crisis affecting our country after the oligarchic tyranny, as well as the crisis affecting Peronism, we begin our final return to the fatherland, fully reaffirming the purpose announced in the open letter to then President-elect Raul Alfonsin on 29 November 1983."

The document goes on to say: "It is publicly known, and should be reiterated, that the 30 October elections were held with our proscription and under the criminal repression of the military-oligarchic regime. Authentic Peronism was absent for a large sector of the Argentine population, particularly for the young, sectors that, after General Peron's death, supported the movement's historic and revolutionary goals, and opposed the political and moral degradation advocated by Lopez Rega."

The document then recalls that under those circumstances the Authentic Party was founded in 1975 as the expression of the historic and liberationist Peronist Party.

"When we were going to become a national party," the document states, "we were arbitrarily proscribed by the constitutional government." The document then describes the repressive political persecution of this party.

The document adds: "Forced into exile, we founded the Peronist Montoneros Movement as a political organization opposed to the tyranny installed in Argentina, and as a defender of the constitutional and political rights of the Argentine people which repeatedly demanded the restoration of the democratic system, and free elections without proscriptions."

The document also says that under the new circumstance, characterized by the defeat of the oligarchic-military regime and the return to a state of law, there is no reason for maintaining the movement's structure; therefore, it announces that, in addition to the dissolution of the Peronist Montonero Movement, we are returning so that the Authentic Party will regain its political and legal status.

The document read by Bidegain states that "we have already said that we shall democratically oppose the elected government." It adds that "we have not entrusted anyone with the conduct of the opposition, and we shall not do so, because that is the exclusive right of each party or faction."

The document also states: In our capacity as a party that cannot be isolated from the Peronist Movement, we shall avail ourselves of our right to engage in constructive opposition that will support all government measures favoring low-income sectors, and we shall struggle to have the unheeded demands of those sectors met. "Our objective is the happiness of the people and the greatness of the nation," the document stresses.

In the final section, the document states that the Argentine people desire real and lasting democracy, and expect that political maneuvers based on false promises, electoral deception, and misleading speeches will be cast aside, because political immorality must be eliminated from our country (?forever).

"In our capacity as genuine Peronists," the document concludes, "we want a new democracy, we want a new Argentina. Youths must play a role in the building of that new Argentina; their idealism, their generosity, their love for justice and for the fatherland, and their spirit of struggle and sacrifice will be their contribution."

After reading the document, Bidegain was asked when the other persons who signed the document would return. He replied: "They will return. Conditions are not yet ripe, but their great desire is to return as soon as possible."

Asked whether he recognized the national Justicialist Council, Bidegain answered: The Peronist Movement does not belong to any one group; it belongs to each Argentine who thinks and feels like a Peronist.

In response to another question, he said that he knows little about the prosecution of Mario Fermenich. "We are aware of the text of Decrees 157 and 158, which have left uncovered the period of terrorist actions by the Triple A during the administration of Isabel Peron."

Bidegain said that he held Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli in high regard and that he did not need to hold a meeting with the minister.

In response to another question, he admitted that political mistakes were made within his group. He added that there are some points of agreement with the Intransigence and Mobilization Peronist faction.

He was then told that many sectors associate the image of Fermenich with violence. Bidegain responded that anyone who engaged in the revolutionary struggle in any country of the world has almost always been vilified during the struggle. This has always happened. "On the day victory is achieved, they become national heroes with great popular support," he stressed. He added: As the president said in his message to Congress, the people's resistance is a constitutional duty. The Constitution rules that [words indistinct] in defense of the Constitution itself.

LABOR MINISTER REJECTS TRADE UNION CRITICISM

PY210250 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1217 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (NA) -- Today Labor Minister Antonio Mucci emphatically rejected assertions by trade union leaders that the law on reorganization of unions "is a masquerade," pointing out that it is, on the contrary, a "serious and responsible" proposal for "true" labor normalization.

The labor minister argued that the principle of not requiring length of membership to be a factor in election to positions within the unions "is non-negotiable" because "we intend to eliminate the election technicalities aimed at limiting grassroot participation."

Minister Mucci thus reacted to the decision of the General Labor Confederation of the Argentine Republic declaring itself in a state of "alert and mobilization," and to the criticisms of the government initiative to reorganize the labor unions.

PSD, PR SAID STUDYING PROCESS FOR MERGER

PY210047 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] The Social Democratic Party [PSD] and the Radical Party [PR] have agreed to initiate procedures for a merger. The document was signed by Luis Bossay, Enrique Silva Cimma, (Mario Sharpe), Patricio Morales, (Duveril Bojaque), and Carlos Gonzalez, who are members of the two parties.

This agreement was disclosed to the press during a ceremony at noon today. PR Secretary General Carlos Gonzalez read the document to Radio Cooperativa listeners.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] Because the PSD and PR hold similar viewpoints regarding the serious events affecting the country, the executive boards of the two parties decided to discuss their basic political principles. As a result of this discussion, they discovered that their basic principles are similar, and that there are no major differences, since their doctrines are inspired by and advocate democratic socialism. Based on these similar viewpoints, and putting the general interest of the country before any other interest, firmly united in rescuing the country's democratic tradition, the two parties have agreed to begin a merger process, which will conclude once it has been ratified by the parties' internal organizations. [end recording]

The two parities reaffirmed their opposition to the military regime, and made a commitment to carry out joint actions for a quick return to democracy.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] In order to carry out this objective, a high-ranking joint coordinating commission comprised of members of the executive board of the two parties has been created. The commission will organize and implement the necessary common actions. This effort cannot be obstructed by people who disagree with this merger. We also declare that those who have cooperated with participated in or supported the dictatorship will not be allowed to join our ranks. [end recording]

In conclusion, the PSD and the PR call on people who share the same principles to join them, strengthening a new, vigorous movement to become a new political alternative for the Chilean people.

PRODEN ALLEGES CNI CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE IMAGE

CNI Denies Report

PY211745 Paris AFP in Spanish 0230 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Santiago, 20 Dec, (AFP) -- The secret National Intelligence Center [CNI] today termed false and highly irregular the report issued by the Chilean opposition group PRODEN [National Development Project] concerning the existence of a high-stake CNI campaign to improve its image.

These fruitless attempts to continue tarnishing the prestige of the CNI clearly show that the political opposition to the supreme government during the past few months has reached the point of convincing us that our organization is a strong and effective barrier against the implementation and success of their destabilizing plans, a CNI communique stated.

PRODEN leader Jorge Lavandero has stated that the CNI will reportedly begin a publicity campaign costing $250,000 in a vain attempt to improve its image before the public.

He said that the CNI, which directly depends on the presidency of the republic, still has secret jails, and that its members detain people without arrest warrants.

Havana on PRODEN Charges

PA211815 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The Chilean opposition group known as PRODEN, (National Development Project), has denounced a publicity campaign designed to improve the image of the National Information Center, CNI, the political police of the Chilean regime, which still maintains secret jails, and whose members continue making arrests without court orders.

Jorge Lavandero, one of the founders of PRODEN, said that the campaign includes press advertisements urging citizens to collaborate in ensuring the population's security. He said that the investment of $250,000 in an effort to justify torture and repression is a flagrant misuse of public funds.

NUCLEAR ENERGY USE BEGINNING IN 1990'S FORESEEN

PY201253 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0125 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Santiago, 18 Dec (EFE) -- Chile will not begin to look into the possibilities of using nuclear energy until 1985. In the meanwhile, its two atomic reactors will be devoted to research work.

Brigadier General Juan Mir, executive director of the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission, affirmed in an interview carried by TERCERA DE LA HORA today that the studies envisioning the building of a power reactor were shelved in 1979 for economic reasons, because more economical alternatives for the production of energy were available at that time.

He then added that "the nuclear alternative will be reviewed in 1985, because it is probable this method of generating energy will be economically feasible in the 1990's."

The Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission is at present preparing adequate legislation for the country's nuclear development, while trying to master basic nuclear technology, and carrying out applied science projects in agriculture, medicine, and industry.

FARC PROPOSES TRUCE TO BE SIGNED 20 JANUARY

PA210318 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] In order for reactionary military men to discontinue unleashing violence, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, has proposed a cease-fire, truce, and peace formula to President Betancur's government. Thus far the proposal has not been answered by the executive branch.

The FARC added that committees comprised of government representatives, the Parliament, the attorney general's office, the Peace Commission, and the guerrillas in the various areas in conflict would begin monitoring a cease-fire so that a truce could be signed on 20 January 1984 by the M-19 [19 April Movement], the ELN [National Liberation Army], the EPL [Popular Liberation Army], and the government. This truce would extend for a year, that is until 20 January 1985, when a lasting and stable peace treaty would be signed.

FARC, M-19 Reach Agreement

PA212106 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1916 GMT 21 Dec 83

[By Libardo Aguirre Saenz]

[Text] Bogota, 21 Dec (EFE) -- Today the two most active guerrilla groups in Colombia, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] and the M-19 [19 April Movement], announced that they had reached a complete political and military agreement.

The agreement was reached at a guerrilla "summit" the two groups held somewhere in Colombia. FARC leader Manuel Marulanda Velez, also know as "Tirofijo," and M-19 leader Ivan Marino Ospina participated in the event.

In a joint communique sent to the media, the two movements claim to have unified their views on peace and insist that a cease-fire is a necessary step for developing a dialogue for peace. According to the communique, "the FARC command and the M-19 have united; we have expanded our fraternal ties and have unified our views on peace." The FARC and the M-19 also asserted: "We have found political and military points of concurrence, and have expanded and strengthened the unity whose initial roots were planted in April of this year."

The two guerrilla groups added that President Belisario Betancur, acting with political realism, has taken certain steps, but they expressed their feeling that it is necessary to advance with actions marked by justice and peace.

"The guerrilla movement's insistence on peace, the multiplication of civic strikes, the peasant marches, and the street demonstrations have grown into a common clamor, demanding that the government's promises be fulfilled, that the people be heard, and that justice be implemented," they indicated.

Later, they noted that their messages to Parliament, the meeting between the FARC general staff and the Peace Commission, and the dialogue that President Betancur and the M-19 leaders held in Madrid all demonstrate and prove that specific and possible solutions exist.

"We again insist on, propose, indeed the guerrilla movement again demands a cease-fire as a necessary step in developing the conditions and dialogue required to achieve peace," they asserted.

The FARC and the M-19 also reported that they have decided to jointly advance in the search for a cease-fire and the conclusion of a negotiated truce. "We will continue to insist on a dialogue with the government, on a cease-fire between the guerrillas and the regular Army, and on the need for national and international guarantors to watch over the fulfillment of the agreements."

Finally, both the FARC and the M-19 call on the other guerrilla organizations that operate in Colombia, so that "we may find ourselves undertaking similar actions or arriving at peace formulas marked by social justice."

FARC CHIEFS KILLED, PAPERS, MATERIEL CONFISCATED

Garces Rivera Killed

PA211607 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Dec 83 p 8-A

[Excerpt] Military sources have reported that (Jaime Garces Rivera), alias David, commander of the 8th Front of the FARC, Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, was killed by members of the Pichincha Battalion in the vicinity of Huisito and La Chapa, in the municipality of Tambo on Cauca.

Found among the personal belongings of the dead guerrilla were documents indicating that the FARC sector "does not plan to lay down its arms or suspend kidnappings." A subversive escalation was discovered following Garces Rivera's death which included taking the town of Huisito in Cauca and the kidnapping of prominent persons in Valle Department. War materiel used exclusively by the FARC was confiscated, including pistols, fragmentation grenades, ammunition of various calibers, and a great deal of field equipment.

Edelio Valencia Killed

PA211518 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Dec 83 p 8-A

[Text] Edelio Valencia, alias "Eliseo," regional leader of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], was killed in a clash between troops of the Barbula Battalion and guerrillas of the FARC 11th Front, the Army General Command has reported. The clash occurred in Yacopi jurisdiction. The troops confiscated a large amount of military materiel and documents. The group was led by guerrilla leader "Martin."

NAVY MINISTER ON ATTACK AGAINST FISHING BOATS

PY210205 Paris AFP in Spanish 2043 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Lima, 20 Dec (AFP) -- Peruvian Navy Minister Vice Admiral Jorge DuBois disclosed today that a private Ecuadoran boat fired against Peruvian fishing boats last Saturday in the country's northern waters, killing a crewman. The minister said that the investigations discovered that it was not an Ecuadoran warship that caused the incident, adding that further investigations will be conducted by the naval post at Puerto Pizarro, 1,200 kms north of Lima.

STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED; TERRORISTS STRIKE

PY220123 Paris AFP in Spanish 1708 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Lima, 21 Dec (AFP) -- Today the Peruvian Government extended the state of emergency for another 60 days. It involves the suspension of constitutional rights, in 10 provinces of the Ayacucho, Apurimac, and Huancavelica Departments, on grounds that the wave of violence and subversion unleashed there by the Shining Path organization still persists.

The government, however, suspended the state of emergency in Huamanga Province where the city of Ayacucho is located, in Ayacucho Department, so that the people, as the political-military command had previously announced, may celebrate Christmas and New Year.

It has also been reported in Ayacucho that a policeman, who may have been slain by Shining Path members, was found dead in a desolate area and that three unidentified individuals shot dead a taxi driver in the city of Ayacucho.

Havana on Ayacucho Tensions

PA210430 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] National Integration Party Secretary General (Miguel Angel Ifares) has said the Ayacucho political-military command is responsible for the tension and repression occurring in that department, and added that the time will come when the people of Ayacucho will judge those responsible for the killings and disappearances.

(Ifares) recalled that General Clemente Noel Moral, chief of the Ayacucho political-military command, received a document citing 180 cases of missing persons since he assumed office.

It has been reported from Lima that residents of Lambayeque Department will carry out a demonstration with empty kettles and baby bottles on 29 December through the streets of Chiclayo against the government's economic policy. In Lima, more than 300 workers of the Jesus Maria municipality are on strike for the third consecutive day to demand salary raises and other compensations. In addition, it has been reported that General Carlos Herrera, director of the higher studies center of the Peruvian Investigative Police, was killed early this morning in the Lima neighborhood of Brena.

NATIONAL PRESS SUBJECTED TO PRIOR RESTRAINT

PY211529 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2338 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 20 Dec (EFE) -- For the first time since the coup d'etat of 27 June 1973, the Uruguayan military government headed by General Gregorio Alvarez has subjected the press to prior restraint.

Until their circulation is approved, all weeklies published by Uruguayan political parties are blocked immediately after they come out of the press room, and thus sale of the publications is delayed.

The publications CRONICAS ECONOMICAS and LA SEMANA URUGUAYA were retained, but they were later allowed to circulate once the censors approved their content.

AQUI, a Christian Democratic Party weekly, was not published today because of the fact that, in view of the political content of the weekly, its editors decided not to print it.

Moreover, Jose German Araujo, the director of "CX 30 La Radio," which was closed by the government, tried today to seek asylum at the Spanish Embassy and to start a fast to protest the military regime.

Araujo, who arrived at the Spanish Embassy today, said that his life was threatened because of his journalistic activities.

In the pre-dawn hours, he announced his decision to carry out a fast to protest the government, and said he planned to carry it out at the Spanish Embassy while proceedings for his political asylum were under way.

After spending 3 hours at the Spanish Embassy, and talking with Charge d'Affaires Manuel Lorenzo, Araujo decided to leave the embassy. The Spanish diplomat convinced Araujo that it was improper to hold a fast at an embassy.

The director of "La Radio" said that he will visit other embassies accredited to Montevideo, not to request asylum, but to explain the arbitrary decision that resulted in the closure of the radio station.

Araujo told EFE that a military officer with the rank of colonel who has not been identified, turned him out of the Interior Ministry when he went there to request some explanations on the case.

In addition, 74 employees of "La Radio" started proceedings so that the government will decide on the future of their jobs, which are threatened.

Weekly BUSQUEDA Banned

PY220243 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] The restrictions that were imposed on the press by a decree issued on 2 August have affected weeklies in particular.

Political weeklies have been subjected to government censorship before being allowed to circulate. This procedure took effect last Monday.

The weekly BUSQUEDA was not allowed to circulate today. For his part, the director of (?JAQUE) magazine told Carve that an emergency issue is being prepared for next Friday. There will also be attempts to circulate CORREO, as was reported by Julio Maria Sanguinetti, its director.

It is not yet known what will happen to the weekly AQUI, which did not appear on Tuesday, as it usually does.

The weekly OPINAR, which is directed by Enrique Tarigo, is also preparing an issue for tomorrow, which will also be censored by the government.

Thus far, LA SEMANA URUGUAYA and CRONICA ECONOMICA are the only weeklies that were allowed to circulate.

EL DIA QUESTIONS U.S. LATIN AMERICA POLICY

PY251525 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 10 Dec 83 p 8

[Editorial: "An Ambiguous Measure"]

[Text] Argentina returns to democracy today, and today the United States lifts the embargo on sales of weapons to that country.

The Reagan administration measure, provided that it is related to respect for human rights, has an unquestionably positive value, since it has become a symbol in this field.

At the same time, it is unfortunate that to celebrate the return of freedom to the Argentine people, the most powerful democracy in the world has not found anything better than to lift the embargo on sales of weapons.

Everything seems to indicate that a different type of decision is called for, and would be well received. With their tremendous economic and financial problems, the last thing that Latin American countries need is weapons. In the specific case of Argentina, a country now reinstituting democracy, with the new government having specifically mandated a reduced military budget, different measures would be expected from Washington.

A pluralist society based on liberating proposals and collective coexistence is more important than the mere attainment of military and strategic objectives. It is time for the U.S. Administration to understand this simple truth, which is so often forgotten, to the detriment of the United States and to the detriment of Latin American countries, as if our region mattered only when it is "secure," even if the price of security is loss of freedom.

COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONTADORA STATUS

PA211535 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0442 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Interview with Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo by Demetrio Olaciregui at the El Panama Hotel in Panama City, date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Olaciregui] What is the objective of today's Contadora Group meeting?

[Lloreda Caicedo] Basically, we will analyze the results of the technical group's meeting here 16 days ago in which nine countries participated, the five Central American countries and the four Contadora Group countries. Prior to the foreign ministers' meeting, in which the Central American countries will also participate, we thought it reasonable to gather all the initiatives, proposals, and ideas brought before the technical group to order them, appraise them, and make any necessary amendments. We will thus be able to present to the Central American countries participating in the January meeting a much more orderly report, containing the different viewpoints and proposals, so that they may examine it prior to the meeting in Panama City. This would enable us to work from a much more solid foundation, since the preparatory work would contribute to obtaining more positive results at the next foreign ministers' meeting. This is the objective of our meeting. I think that in this last phase of the negotiations, which deals with possible treaties and protocol, we must act very carefully so that each step is in the right direction. We would not want to face difficulties when there is potential for reaching agreements.

[Olaciregui] What is your evaluation of the Contadora Group's efforts after almost 12 months of meetings, talks, and consultations? What do you think has been accomplished by the group?

[Lloreda Caicedo] One thing is clear; while similar crises, conflicts, and tensions in other parts of the world have resulted in generalized military situations, we have been able to prevent war in Central America. I think this alone justifies all our efforts.

[Olaciregui] How do you view the United States' having publicly expressed support for the Contadora Group while simultaneously continuing its military maneuvers in Central America and now announcing a third phase in the maneuvers, this time with the participation of Honduran, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan troops?

[Lloreda Caicedo] I think this is a question to be answered by U.S. Government officials. Our work must be done without entering into unnecessary polemics with either the United States, the USSR, or Cuba. We have asked these countries to cooperate by not creating negative situations and by collaborating with us instead, so that our efforts may not fail. I think that in the long run they will all realize that no one would benefit from a generalized conflict, which would be disastrous for Central America and would create very grave tensions in Latin America. I think our persuasive efforts have gradually produced results, especially in the attitude of these countries, and I think that when these governments express their support for the proposals and agreements that have been developed through the Contadora Group mechanism, they do so with good intentions.

We must assume that they are sincere and insist on asking for their support, which we consider useful for our objectives.

CONTADORA MINISTERS END 2-DAY PANAMA MEETING

PA212032 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1924 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Contadora Group today ended a meeting they began yesterday in Panama City to strengthen the foundations of peace in Central America. Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo spoke to the press about the meeting.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What was the result of the Contadora Group meeting?

[Lloreda Caicedo] I think that the meeting was very satisfactory. In the last few hours we have defined very important aspects for the next meeting of the Central American and Contadora Group foreign ministers. This meeting was basically preparation for that meeting. We have set the date of that joint meeting for 7 and 8 January, which coincides with the first anniversary of activities of the Contadora Group. We will present a document to the Central American governments directed at implementing specific and immediate actions on various security, political, and economic aspects so that the commitments in the document of objectives can be fulfilled. That is the essence of the document we have examined and approved and that we will present to the Central American governments for their review so that they may bring their comments and opinions on the feasibility of the proposals we are making to the 7 January meeting.

[Reporter] How near is peace for Central America? How long will we have to wait for theory to become practice?

[Lloreda Caicedo] Well, I think we are achieving a result that is sometimes not sufficiently appreciated. It is a fact that we have prevented war. That cannot be said in other parts of the world. Perhaps due to the lack of an instrument such as the one we have here, very serious, major conflicts have broken out with direct participation by the big powers. Therefore, we see an evident benefit in what we are doing. Total peace depends on so many factors that dates cannot be given. They have [words indistinct] ingredients, and obviously they have a social and economic backdrop. By attacking those factors, we will be able to achieve what you are suggesting: peace. [end recording]

Havana Notes End of Meeting

PA220257 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] The Contadora Group's foreign ministers concluded 2 days of deliberations in Panama City by approving a proposal called Principles for the Implementation of the Commitments Agreed Upon in the Document of Objectives. The proposal, which covers the subjects of regional security, politics, and joint economic action, will be submitted to the Central American foreign ministers at the joint meeting to be held in Panama City 7-9 January. The timing of this upcoming meeting coincides with the first anniversary of the founding of the Contadora Group which takes its name from the Pacific Ocean island off Panama.

After today's meeting, the foreign ministers of Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia met with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella, briefing him on the topics discussed at their meeting.

BELIZE

OPPOSITION SAID NOT RECOGNIZING DEMOCRACY

FL211329 Belize City THE BELIZE SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 Dec 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Democracy and Elections"]

[Text] Elections are no doubt one of the shining examples of how vibrant democracy is in Belize. The fact that democracy is alive and well in Belize is recognized by all, except by our opposition.

Since our independence on September 21, 1981, many countries have singled out Belize as one of the very few democracies in Latin America. Yet, within our own country the opposition has a different view.

It is not difficult to understand why the opposition should hold the view that democracy is esoteric. A country that has a flourishing democracy has to have a good government. Unfortunately, in Belize the opposition will never credit the government for anything. It finds fault with everything. Some may say that this is politics. But we hold the view that the opposition should be more functional.

Looking back at the political campaign for next week's City Council elections, we find the opposition performing its traditional role of thrashing the government for every single problem in the country. We are not saying that the government is free from blame. We hold the view that the opposition should present a more realistic programme to the voters.

If there are so many problems, like the opposition claims, the thing now is to find solutions. The problems will not go away by simply pointing a finger at ministers and slandering officials of government.

The opposition had its turn in the City Council. When they failed to perform and deliver their promises to the people they blamed the government. Some of the councillors at the time did not even finish their term in office; they left the country or simply abandoned their responsibilities to the people. They claim they are ready now to meet the challenge in the City Council.

We cannot help but wonder....

COSTA RICA

PVP LEADER CALLS FOR UNITY, EYES POLICIES

PA212036 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 14 Dec 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Humberto Vargas Carbonell, secretary general of the Popular Vanguard Party [PVP], yesterday called for unity of the democratic forces so that the country can face the economic crisis without resorting to violence. He reiterated that the changes in his organization do not signify any change in the political orientation of the Costa Rican communist party.

In his first news conference, the new secretary general of the PVP stressed the virtues of Manuel Mora Valverde, who was removed as secretary general by the PVP congress and appointed president.

Asked about a possible hardening of the PVP's policy, Vargas Carbonell said that the practice of describing communist leaders as "hard" and "soft" debases politics.

"If one accepts that from now on we are going to maintain a hard line, we would have to admit that the PCP had been a weak and soft party, and I do not admit that." He added that the communists have a political line, a tactic, and a policy responding to collectively drafted guidelines.

Regarding closer relations with the Soviet Union, Vargas Carbonell said that one of Mora Valverde's greatest virtues -- which his political adversaries have recognized -- is his ability to interpret Costa Rican reality. "We are Marxist-Leninist and we feel admiration, respect, and solidarity for the Soviet Union," the PCP secretary general said. He reiterated that they do not receive or obey orders from anyone, and that when someone tries to impose their will, the Central Committee makes the decisions.

When newsmen insisted on the possible emergence of a hard line in the Communist Party, Vargas Carbonell said that decisions in the PCP are not imposed by the secretary general but are collective.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA DENIES RECEIVING ULTIMATUM FROM REAGAN

PA211343 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 19 Dec 83 p 2

[Report by Jorge Armando Contreras]

[Excerpts] President Alvaro Magana has told EL MUNDO that U.S. President Ronald Reagan did send him a letter but did not set a deadline for expelling alleged "death squad" members.

Magana said: "No president can address another president in such an authoritative manner, and he certainly cannot order him to do something." "I don't know where this report came from," Magana added, but he did admit that he had received a letter.

The letter -- if it can be called that -- is an extensive document delivered by U.S. Vice President George Bush during his stopover in this capital on his return from Argentina, where he had attended the inauguration of Argentine President Raul Alfonsin. Magana admitted receiving the document, which contained general observations on the situation here, especially the violence.

Magana added: "The letter refers to various topics and does not mention specific individuals supposedly linked to these squads, individuals who should be expelled from the country."

MILITARY ARRESTS ARMY CAPTAIN LINKED TO KILLINGS

PA210457 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0408 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Dec (DPA) -- A brief police report has revealed that Salvadoran Army Captain Eduardo Ernesto Alfonso Avila was arrested at his home in southwest San Salvador today on an order from the Armed Forces High Command.

Capt Avila's name was on a list reportedly submitted recently to Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana by U.S. Vice President George Bush. Avila is listed as the brains behind the killings of two land reform technicians and the president of the Salvadoran Institute for Agrarian Transformation at San Salvador's Sheraton Hotel in 1980. Avila's relatives told several international news agencies that heavily armed men took him from his home. So far, high government sources have declined to comment on the officer's arrest, which was confirmed by a San Salvador radio station.

Earlier this year Capt Avila's mother asked the Armed Forces High Command and the president to clear her son of the serious charges lodged against him, saying that "he was following military orders and it is unfair that he be abandoned."

RATIONING REPORTED; SECURITY FORCES ATTACKED

PA220313 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpts] It was reported today from Morazan Department that a large sector has been without electricity since last night and early this morning. Electric power rationing has already begun in two areas of the capital of San Vicente Department.

According to a report by the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, the rationing is due to the reduced power reaching the sectors in charge of the rationing. This rationing is also due in part to the dynamite attacks carried out by leftists over the past weekend near Tecoluca. The attacks severed high voltage cables.

According to reports, the security forces near the village of Mariona and a penitentiary bearing the same name in San Salvador Department were attacked last night and early this morning by FMLN leftists. According to military sources, one guard was wounded during the attack. It was further reported that no information was available regarding the fate of leftists, including whether any of them were wounded during the attack.

In Suchitoto, it was reported that a National Guard member and a policeman were kidnapped by rebels yesterday afternoon while traveling aboard a pickup truck wearing civilian clothes. The men were on leave. The leftists stopped the vehicle at a turnoff leading to (La Manteca) village and immediately pulled the men out and took them away to an unknown destination. The policeman kidnapped was the secretary of his unit, and at the time of his capture by the rebels he had a list with the names of the police members in Suchitoto, according to military sources.

RADIO VENCEREMOS NOTES SEIZURE OF CIUDAD BARRIOS

PA220224 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[War Bulletin issued by the FMLN's Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] On 21 December, units of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade's Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona Northern Group delivered a blow to the rear guard of the enemy's operation that Colonel Domingo Monterrosa is conducting in Morazan Department.

Early this morning, the enemy's position in Ciudad Barrios, located on the west side of Cerro Cacahuatique, was attacked. Units of the 3d Infantry Brigade and the National Guard were guarding this position. The enemy in Ciudad Barrios fled in disarray after a few hours of combat as our forces took control of the town. Units of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade pursued the enemy, inflicting many casualties. As a result of these clashes, the enemy asked for reinforcements from the Cazadores Battalion in Usulutan. These troops were flown in helicopters to a place located 1 km south of Ciudad Barrios.

Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade artillery units, which controlled the high ground near Ciudad Barrios, opened antiaircraft fire on the helicopters that were transporting the reinforcement troops.

Our forces hit three helicopters on their first landing attempt, causing some casualties, including a pilot who was seriously wounded and who probably died a few hours later. Another helicopter was hit in the afternoon, bringing to four the number of helicopters damaged in today's fighting near Ciudad Barrios. The ambush carried out by our units against the landing of the airborne troops foiled the landing operation, forcing them to find another place to disembark.

Airborne troop transportation is part of the tactics that U.S. advisers are teaching the Salvadoran Army. In today's fighting we defeated the U.S. tactic that Col Domingo Monterrosa is trying to carry out.

According to reports, our units were still fighting the troops sent from Usulutan. Meanwhile, other Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade units were also opposing forces of the Belloso and Morazan Battalions in (Los Quebracho), (Cerro Palacios), and (Cerro Pururu) in Morazan Department, near the town of Jocoatique.

HAVANA OBSERVES FIGHTING, NEW CONSTITUTION

PA211743 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The Honduran Army has established a siege in the area bordering the Salvadoran department of Morazan as part of an antiguerrilla operation launched by the Salvadoran Army in the area, according to information released by the rebel station Radio Farabundo Marti.

The station also reported that Salvadoran Air Force helicopters strafed the communities of Sesori and San Luis de la Reina, as well as several villages in San Miguel, Cabanas, and Cuscatlan Departments, killing at least six civilians, including two children.

Radio Farabundo Marti revealed that the rebel forces inflicted six casualties on the Salvadoran Army in a clash on the road connecting Tecoluca and Zacatecoluca and attacked a military outpost in El Paisnal, 39 km north of San Salvador.

Other dispatches reported that after 20 months of debate and a cost of over $3 million, a new Constitution went into effect in El Salvador which, through its limitations, has virtually annulled the agrarian reform begun in 1980.

The Salvadoran Workers Federation has described the constitutional provisions on the agrarian reform as a mockery to the peasantry and, like other worker and peasant sectors, is studying the approved text to form an opinion later.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA WILL ACCEPT DECEMBER CABINET RESIGNATIONS

PA212358 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Guatemalan Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores said today that he is willing to break the practice of previous governments of confirming in their positions the ministers who resign in December in order to give the president freedom to appoint new cabinet members.

The head of state said that he will accept all resignations from his ministers. He also said that no electric power rationing will result from the problems at the hydroelectric plant in Chixoy. In addition, Mejia announced that he will meet with political leaders next week to discuss the electoral law.

MEJIA DENIES COOLING OF U.S. RELATIONS

PA211923 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 21 Dec 83 p 6

[Text] During an interview yesterday in one of the corridors of the National Palace, General Oscar Mejia Victores, Guatemalan head of state, denied that relations between Guatemala and the United States have grown cold.

Gen Mejia Victores acknowledged the temporary absence of U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala Frederic E. Chapin, who has been in the United States for almost 1 month. Asked if Chapin's absence was due to a possible cooling of Guatemala's relations with the Reagan administration, Mejia Victores replied that these reports are groundless. As far as I know, he stressed, Ambassador Chapin is on vacation in his country. Logically, we do not expect him to return until after the Christmas and New Year holidays. His trip should not be interpreted as a possible cooling of relations between our country and the United States, Mejia Victores said, adding that, on the contrary, bilateral relations continue to be as close and harmonious as always.

EGP GUERRILLA ON SUCCESSFUL 1983 ACTIONS

PA211429 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Interview with Julian Perez, a combatant of the Guatemalan Poor People's Guerrilla Army, EGP; date and place not given; questioner not identified -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] In today's interview section we have Julian Perez, a combatant of the EGP, one of the four political-military organizations comprising the URNG. He speaks initially about the Guatemalan situation in 1984 and then reports on the repression and struggle in that Central American country.

[Perez] First of all, we can state that during 1983 the member organizations of the UNRG have defeated the main counterinsurgency campaigns of the Guatemalan military regime with their political-military actions. The military campaigns the guerrilla forces carried out in the second quarter of this year in Chimaltenango stand out. Chimaltenango is a zone the regime had said was pacified. It must also be stressed that the urban front renewed military operations this year. It showed that the enemy had not achieved its objective of controlling the capital, something it had arrogantly proclaimed. It is also important to note that political-military actions have essentially increased this year. The guerrilla forces have been carrying out constant activities and staging effective military attacks in the capital, Chimaltenango, San Marcos, Peten, Quiche, and Huehuetenango. They have been carrying out constant actions in those zones and have been making the struggle known to the Guatemalan people, telling them that the counterinsurgency plans Victory '82 and Firmness '83 have been militarily defeated.

BRIEFS

PARTY MEETS REQUIREMENTS -- The National Unity Front, FUN, today presented the 4,000 signatures that the electoral law requires to operate as a political party. The FUN is one of the first political parties to fulfill the legal requirements with the civil registry so it can be considered a party that will participate in the 1984 electoral process. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 9 Dec 83 PA]

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTS FIRST ROVING AMBASSADOR

PA211516 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] National Party member Roberto Galvez Barnes, a major and former member of a military government triumvirate, was appointed special ambassador for Central American and Caribbean affairs yesterday. This information was released in the following official communique:

Honduran President Doctor Roberto Suazo Cordova, through the Honduran Foreign Secretariat, has appointed engineer Roberto Galvez Barnes as special ambassador for Central American and Caribbean affairs, under the supervision of Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica.

Galvez Barnes is a prominent member of the Honduran society with an outstanding record of service to the country. The duties assigned to him will be carried out at the highest level, including special cases of international relations within the framework of the State Secretariat's foreign relations.

Galvez Barnes' appointment is effective 1 January 1984 and will surely contribute to strengthening the Honduran position at the regional and international level. His responsibilities will be coordinated with the foreign secretary, deputy foreign secretary, and the Foreign Secretariat's team of advisers.

HAVANA CITES ALVAREZ ON BIG PINE III MANEUVERS

PA210455 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Honduran Army chief General Gustavo Alvarez has announced in Tegucigalpa that another joint exercise of Honduran and U.S. troops will be started in March 1984. The exercise will be named Big Pine III. Alvarez said these exercises will start when the Big Pine II exercises, currently underway, are completed. Big Pine II is scheduled to last 8 months, with the participation of more than 6,000 U.S. soldiers.

In Big Pine III Guatemalan and Salvadoran soldiers will also participate. In total, some 20,000 soldiers of the participating armies will be involved in the exercises. These exercises will become, in fact, the first joint military activity of the countries belonging to the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, which was reactivated by the United States without Nicaragua's participation.

Gen Alvarez spoke during a ceremony in which he was confirmed as president of an anti-communist corporation called the Association for the Development of Honduras. Alvarez said that a war against Nicaragua is a possibility that must be considered, but he declined to mention the relationship between the announced exercises and a probable invasion of Nicaragua.

Gen Alvarez' announcement coincided with a new offensive of the Nicaraguan contras operating from Honduras. About 2,000 former Somozist Guards and other anti-Sandinist elements are participating in this offensive.

HAVANA SAYS $9 MILLION MILITARY SHIPMENT ARRIVES

PA181948 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] A large shipment of war supplies valued at more than $9 million has arrived in Honduras for use in an eventual invasion of Nicaragua, according to dispatches received in San Jose, Costa Rica.

General Humberto Montoya, commander of the Honduran Navy, would neither confirm nor deny these reports, but he did admit that his country is currently purchasing a considerable amount of military equipment abroad.

Meanwhile, graduation ceremonies were held for officers, policemen, and counterinsurgency battalions in Tegucigalpa. General Gustavo Alvarez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, and General Daniel Bali Castillo, the Honduran public security chief, were present at the ceremonies.

The Armed Forces command expressed satisfaction with the level of development of these repressive forces, urging them to be alert and ready to fight when the time comes.

BRIEFS

POLITICAL-ECONOMIC FOUNDATION -- Tegucigalpa, 19 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Association for the Development of Honduras [La Asociacion Para el Progreso de Honduras -- APROH], whose president is General Gustavo Alvarez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, announced here today that the organization will become a foundation headquartered in the United States. The decision was made at the end of the General Assembly, in which Alvarez Martinez was ratified as president, in conjunction with the other board members. APROH is a political-economic organization that seeks to benefit Honduran society. [Summary] [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2321 GMT 19 Dec 83 PA]

LAND TITLES TO PEASANTS -- In a ceremony on 17 December, the National Agrarian Institute, INA, presented 1,500 property titles to small and medium coffee growers from more than 20 communities of Santa Barbara Department. Santa Barbara has been chosen the pilot for the land title project due to its economic potential and because it has been one of the least affected by agrarian reform. The general goal of the project is to increase food production, create more jobs, and generate more income for the producers. The project is financed by the Agency for International Development and the INA. [Summary] [Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 20 Dec 83 PA]

AGREEMENT WITH CHILE -- Tegucigalpa -- Honduras and Chile have signed an agreement aimed at improving their relations and increasing commercial and cultural exchanges. The agreement was signed by Arnulfo Pineda Lopez and Humberto Julia Reyes, the Honduran and Chilean deputy foreign ministers, in November 1983 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. [Summary] [San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Dec 83 p 18 PA]

UK LABOR PARTY OFFICIALS -- Two representatives of the United Kingdom's Labor Party have arrived in this capital and have met with Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica. They are Donald Anderson and Stuart Holland, who are touring Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. According to Holland, the reason for this visit is to learn about the situation in these countries. [Summary] [Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 16 Dec 83 p 53 PA]

NICARAGUA

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON KIDNAPPING OF BISHOP

FDN Denies Participation

PA211710 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1554 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) denied in Tegucigalpa that its commandos had kidnapped Monsignor Salvador Schlaeffer Berg, the Catholic bishop of Bluefields. Msgr Schlaeffer Berg is being held, along with most of the people of the locality of Francia Sirpe, U.S. priest Wendolin Shaffer, and two Nicaraguan deacons.

According to William Rodriguez, the FDN delegate in Nicaragua's Atlantic region, anti-Sandinist groups operating in the zone are responsible for this action.

In Tegucigalpa, FDN's spokesman Miguel Frank Arana said that FDN commandos "do not operate in the Francia Sirpe sector."

"We have nothing to do with the bishop's disappearance; neither have we ordered any action against the Nicaraguan Catholic Church or its representatives," the spokesman added.

Arana added that the FDN is currently engaged in a continuing offensive in northern Nicaragua, especially in the provinces of Nueva Segovia and Jinotega.

Concerning the possible culprits in the kidnapping of the bishop and the people of Francia Sirpe, Arana expressed no opinion, saying it was best to wait until all the details connected with this situation are known.

Havana Reports Kidnap

PA211748 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Nicaragua denounced the kidnapping of Bluefields' Catholic bishop, Monsignor Salvador Schlaeffer, three other clergymen, and many residents of the community of Francia Sirpe, in Zelaya Department, by Somozist mercenaries from Honduran territory.

Initial reports released by Radio Sandino said that the counterrevolutionaries attacked the town of Francia Sirpe, located near the Nicaraguan-Honduran border, and that residents unable to escape were kidnapped and taken by force into Honduran territory.

The report added that this criminal act is part of the plans financed, organized, and directed by the CIA, and stressed that such actions are only possible with the support of the Honduran regime for the Somozist mercenaries.

Schlaeffer, a U.S. priest of the Capuccine order, is a member of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference and bishop of the city of Bluefields.

He attended the ceremony on 4 December in which the authorities announced the amnesty for 307 Miskitos condemned for counterrevolutionary actions and the authorization for thousands of Indians, who went into Honduras deceived by anti-Sandinist campaigns, to return to the country.

Government Reports Bishop Killed

PA220309 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0244 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Communique issued by the Directorate of Dissemination and Press of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in Managua on 21 December 1983, read by Manuel Espinoza Henriquez, director general of dissemination and press -- live]

[Text] The Directorate of Dissemination and Press of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction reports that subsequent to the condemnable kidnapping of Monsignor Salvador Schlaeffer and residents of Francia Sirpe yesterday, we have information indicating that Msgr Schlaeffer was murdered this morning when he resisted his captors in Wisconsin, 12 km northwest of La Tronquera, on the border with Honduras.

These actions are within the framework of the new escalation that thousands of counterrevolutionaries led by the CIA have launched from Honduras in these days of Christmas and the New Year, in order to murder children, women, and old people, and to destroy our economy, particularly in border areas of Nueva Segovia, Jinotega, and northern Zelaya.

The Nicaraguan Government has issued instructions to the Armed Forces to go to the site where it was reported that Msgr Schaleffer was killed in order to confirm these reports.

'FACE THE PEOPLE' ON U.S. AGGRESSION, CONTADORA

PA211732 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0254 GMT 21 Dec 83

["Face the People" program with Government Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega at the National University's Carlos Fonseca Amador Hall in Managua -- live; intercepted in progress]

[Excerpt] [Brown] I am (Judy Brown), of THE SUNDAY TIMES. Is there any chance of reaching an agreement within the framework of Contadora with the United States to withdraw all foreign military advisers, that is, the Cuban and GDR military advisers from Nicaragua and the U.S. military advisers and bases from Honduras and El Salvador? What are the chances of avoiding a war with the United States?

[Ortega] We have made every effort in that direction, demonstrating our willingness to adopt specific measures on the issues of weapons, foreign military advisers and bases in Central America, and military maneuvers and exercises, etc. Nicaragua's position was explained in a very thorough document that Nicaragua submitted to Contadora. This document refers not only to the military aspects, but to the political security and economic aspects.

As we have already said, it is now the turn of the United States if it is really interested in a political solution to the problems in Central America. If it really does not want a broader war in Central America, it must respond to the initiatives presented by Nicaragua, because these proposals respond to all those elements the United States has been using as a pretext for intervention and invasion against Nicaragua.

The Contadora Group's technical commissions have been meeting in Panama, and meetings of the Contadora Group foreign ministers with the Central American foreign ministers are being planned for January. But what is happening in the meantime? We continue to be attacked.

We continue to be the object of a well-publicized counterrevolutionary offensive sponsored and directed by the CIA from bases of operation in Honduran territory. Several National Directorate companeros have already referred to these activities which are being unleashed against our people. Their major effects are felt by the workers, the cooperatives, and the production centers. They affect the machinery used to open roads so that the harvest can be brought out. The machinery is destroyed; the peasants are killed. This is the nature of the offensive they are currently launching against us. And now, practically as a continuation of that policy, a communique released today by the Foreign Ministry tells us that in a small village in Nicaragua's north Atlantic zone, near the Honduran border, Msgr Schlaeffer has become a victim. Earlier this month he participated with us in the event held at the Nonaligned Plaza when the amnesty of the Miskitos was announced. Perhaps while carrying out pastoral work with other priests, as the Foreign Ministry has explained, he became the victim of this policy. At the present time we don't know Msgr Schlaeffer's whereabouts.

In the meantime, talks are already underway in Honduras and the United States about the next maneuvers to be staged, Big Pine III. These maneuvers have been slated for February or March of next year, only a few months from now. The Hondurans and the Americans are planning new military maneuvers.

So we must insist that it is definitely up to the United States to respond. To effectively endorse Contadora would be using their influence over certain Central American governments to permit the reaching of some agreement within Contadora. Nicaragua is willing to reach agreements but, as we have said, there can be no unilateral decisions. Nicaragua has been making unilateral decisions. Let us reach a common agreement. We can't be asked to make decisions alone. We have decided to let this process follow its own course. We may even remove all foreign military presence from Central America [words indistinct]. But this decision must be made by all. It must extend to the foreign military presence in all Central American countries, not only in Nicaragua, as some would like.

Nicaragua has made a very serious proposal, and we expect the United States to reflect on it instead of imposing even greater sacrifices on the Nicaraguan people and on the American people as well, for in the long run it is the American people who will fall. The American people, the young Americans, are the ones who would be used to launch an aggression. The United States has the chance to reflect and to demonstrate whether it is truly interested in a political solution and, therefore, in Central American peace, or if all this is merely artifice, lies, and pretexts because it will insist on war. In the meantime, and unless some agreement is reached in this connection, we must remain alert, and we must be prepared to confront these counterrevolutionary offensives which the United States is launching against us with the support of the Hondurans. We must also be prepared to confront [word indistinct] a general U.S. intervention.

SECURITY CHIEF DENOUNCES CIA-EMBASSIES LINK

PA220136 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] In an interview published today in the French newspaper L'HUMANITE, Commander Lenin Cerna, the Nicaraguan national security chief, has accused the CIA of participating in the espionage activities against the embassies of certain friendly countries.

Cerna explained that the foremost mission of the General Directorate of State Security is to take the necessary steps to uncover the activities of the CIA, to locate and expose them. The state security agency should uncover the enemy's information-gathering activities, subversion, and supply system, to subsequently plan a counterattack to destroy the enemy's espionage plans, Cerna said.

We know, he continued, that the CIA is behind all those plans, and that it is present at social gatherings and even in the espionage activities of certain (?friendly) embassies.

The L'HUMANITE newsman commented that it seemed that the CIA underestimated Nicaragua's capacity to resist, to which Cerna replied: That mistake is to our advantage, and can be explained as a matter of class. They thought: Those Indians are not intelligent. But then they could never understand how the Vietnamese defeated them, either. The newsman pointed out that Cerna is a secret service chief with a public image, to which the Sandinist leader replied: We Sandinists are a product of the people, and we cannot be separated from the people.

FDN COMMUNIQUE REJECTS SANDINIST AMNESTY OFFER

PA210422 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 13 Dec 83 p 22 A

[Communique issued by the National Directorate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force on 6 December 1983 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras; published as a paid advertisement; boldface passages as published]

[Text] FDN REJECTS DECEITFUL AMNESTY OFFER FROM MANAGUA'S MARXIST REGIME

IN VIEW OF THE OFFER OF SAFE-CONDUCTS, LAND, AND UNSPECIFIED CIVIL RIGHTS MADE BY THE SANDINIST REGIME TO NICARAGUAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE LEFT NICARAGUA SINCE JULY 1979, OR WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE REBEL FORCES, THE FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] DECLARES:

1. The Sandinists do not have the credibility or the trust of the Nicaraguans, the Central Americans, and the international community because of their actions.

2. The very fact that such an offer is being made reveals the regime's repressive character, from which stems the violation of the rights they now pretend "to offer generously" to their lawful holders.

3. The decree is a hasty and isolated step in what should be a total democratization process. It does not even offer an end to abuses and repressive laws, such as assassinations, arbitrary incarcerations, denial of legal defense, confiscations, religious persecution, alienated [alienante] education, and others, which remain the cause of a constant exodus of Nicaraguans.

4. They have excluded rebel leaders from the offer, after rejecting a dialogue proposal without conditions that was submitted by the rebel leaders, thus discriminating and depriving the people of the leaders who can guide them to obtain their rights.

5. It leaves in the hands of the pompous Sandinist machinery the whimsical convocation of an electoral process whose objective, according to the Sandinist leaders, will be to assure the permanence of the Sandinists without putting the government at stake.

6. They do not offer jobs to those who accept the "pardon," and they do not even mention the eviction of thousands of internationalist parasites who are taking work and food away from Nicaraguans.

7. They disregard the conceptual context of Contadora's effort, which bases possible peace agreements on internal democratization, real guarantees that the peace agreements will be fulfilled, and supervision by responsible governments.

8. They forget that the Nicaraguan crisis is due to the Sandinist failure to comply with the commitments contracted with the Nicaraguan people and the peoples and governments of America in July 1979.

9. There is a similarity between this offer and the one made by Somoza Garcia to the true Sandinists, which ended with the assassination of Sandino and his best men and the progressive extermination of his followers. During the decline of his government, Somoza Debayle also offered an amnesty, the restitution of rights, and elections. Nobody believed him, and his regime fell.

10. Siren songs will no longer fool the Nicaraguan people or the democratic peoples and governments.

ADOLFO CALERO PORTOCARRERO

FDN NATIONAL DIRECTORATE PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF

NATIONAL DIRECTORATE, TEGUCIGALPA, 6 DECEMBER 1983

Signed: Alexis H. Martinez Vargas, Identification Card 6-100-753

OPPOSITION SECTOR OUTLINES REQUIREMENTS FOR PEACE

PA220312 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2345 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaragaun opposition said today that the "counterrevolutionary groups would cease to exist were press censorship lifted, democratic measures taken, and a return to the revolution's original program implemented."

Agustin Jarquin, spokesman for the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board opposition bloc, said that there is a need for "reconciliation among all Nicaraguans, as well as for the establishment of a genuinely democratic regime in Nicaragua that would allow us to live in peace and would stop the bloodshed."

After returning from a tour of five European countries, opposition leaders told newsmen today that "those laws that hamper free expression and the dissemination of thought" must also be repealed.

Jarquin, who is also the president of the Social Christian Party, pointed out that other steps must be taken, such as the "reopening of the 20 independent radio newscasts that remain closed and the lifting of the censorship imposed on the newspaper LA PRENSA." He added: "By the same token, television broadcasts of Sunday mass and the programs and rituals of worship at all churches must also be resumed."

The opposition said that "those decreees that restrict free association and travel must be repealed and human rights and the writ of habeas corpus must be respected."

SOMOZISTS KILL 14 DURING ATTACK IN EL COCO

PA211856 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Fourteen persons were massacred last Sunday, among them two girls aged 10 and 6, at the Augusto Cesar Sandino cooperative in El Coco, 16 km southwest of Quilali in Region One. The crime was perpetrated by a Somozist task force. Brothers Joaquin and Pablo Ramirez Matey were killed after inflicting nine casualties on the attackers.

The Somozists, in response to the unexpected resistance, became enraged and damaged the cooperative's property, burning 17 homes, two tractors, a large quantity of corn, and a coffee mill. While withdrawing, the Somozists abandoned boxes of ammunition with NATO labels, which were sent to Honduras by the United States during the Big Pine II maneuvers and given to the counterrevolutionaries. The attackers were members of the group of 3,000 Somozists who recently entered the country, an entry denounced by Commander Carlos Nunez last weekend.

ARDE ANNOUNCES CREATION OF DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

PA211545 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Announcement by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, on the creation of a disciplinary tribunal, read by announcer]

[Text] From the Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity, MISURASATA; Democratic Revolutionary Movement, MDN; Sandino Revolutionary Front, FRS; Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, FSDC: ARDE's Revolutionary Assembly, the highest legislative and executive organization of the alliance, comprised of four delegates from each member organization plus additional delegates, after its installation and the approval of its statutes, has appointed a disciplinary tribunal of conciliation and arbitration. Its members are: Dr Walter Balladares, Adolfo Chamorro, (Anibal Ibarra), (Modesto Watson), and labor leader (Zacarias Fernandez). Alternates are: (Jennedy Hudson) and (Ronald Zabala).

The Assembly also named a commission to contribute to the designing of a national project integrating coordinated actions against Managua's totalitarian regime into a single front. The commission is headed by Alfonso Robelo, an ARDE Directorate member and political affairs coordinator, and includes Jose Davila, also a Directorate member, (Rafael Zelaya), Carlos Coronel, and (Donald Castillo Rivas).

This commission represents the MISURASATA Southern Indegenous Creole Communities, SICC, the MDN, the FRS, the FSDC, and other independent members of the alliance.

The coordinator presiding over the Assembly sessions in December is Jose Davila, assisted by Permanent Secretary (Mario Benito Arce).

Without totalitarianism or return to the past!

ARDE WAR BULLETINS REPORT PROGRESS OF WAR

Sandinists Ambushed; 10 Killed

PA211257 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 124 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance Armed Forces General Command in "the mountains of Nicaragua" on 17 December 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] armed forces reports the following to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world:

1. On 15 December at 1115, the (Colmillo) 2d Platoon of the General (Francisco Seda) Column, commanded by Companero (Navegante) ambushed an IFA [brand name] truck on the road between (El Coral) and Nueva Guinea, at the place known as El Nispero.

2. As a result of the ambush, 10 enemy troops were killed and 3 were wounded. No weapons were seized.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Fighting in El Zapote

PA211557 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 126, issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, in "the mountains of Nicaragua," dated 17 December 83]

[Text] The ARDE General Command reports to the people of Nicaragua and the free peoples of the world:

1. At 0930 on 28 November 1983, the (Colmillo) 1st Platoon of the General (Francisco Estrada) Column, headed by Companero (Pinto), ambushed a Sandinist People's Army, EPS, patrol between El Verdun and La Union highways, at the place known as El Zapote.

2. As result of this action, our forces killed four and wounded three enemy soldiers. The fighting ended at 0950.

3. This information is being released with some delay due to the remoteness of the site of the action.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

10 Army Casualties in El Zapote

PA220237 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 127 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance. ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, in "the mountains of Nicaragua," dated 20 December 1983]

[Text] The ARDE General Command reports to the people of Nicaragua and the democratic peoples of the world that:

1. At 1530 on 10 December 1983, the General Francisco Estrada column led by Companero Diablo clashed with the army of occupation in El Zapote, in the jurisdiction of Nueva Guinea.

2. In this clash, we inflicted 10 casualties on the army of occupation: 4 dead and 6 gravely wounded.

3. This fight lasted about 30 minutes, after which our forces retreated to the mountains of our homeland. We have no casualties to report.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Clash in Virginia

PA220414 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 128 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, in "the mountains of Nicaragua," dated 20 December 1983]

[Text] The ARDE General Command reports to the people of Nicaragua and the free peoples of the world that:

1. At 1530 on 17 December 1983, a Saturn unit [unidad Saturno] that belongs to the TPH-3 [not further identified] Region clashed with the pro-Soviet EPS [Sandinist People's Army] in Virginia, jurisdiction of Punta Gorda River, and in the Big Highway [Carretera Grande] area.

2. The fighting lasted 2 hours and resulted in 20 soldiers killed on the side of the pro-Soviet army. They were forced to flee in disarray leaving war materiel behind.

3. Following this clash, as the enemy was retreating, they met one of our patrols. We ambushed them, but the number of casualties was not determined.

4. On our side, we regret the heroic death of Companero Duro.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

La Pimienta Post Seized

PA220425 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 130 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, in "the mountains of Nicaragua," dated 20 December 1983]

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, General Command reports to the people of Nicaragua and the peoples of world that:

1. At 0300 on 18 December 1983, two squads of the Ivan Montenegro Column of the (Culebra) region operating in Rivas Department attacked and seized La Pimienta post and held it until the morning hours.

2. As a result of this attack on the interventionist forces, we inflicted 17 casualties on the enemy, including 7 dead and 10 wounded.

3. The action of our armed forces lasted 25 minutes. The enemy could not receive any support due to the intensity of our small arms fire. We recovered two AKA rifles bearing the designation DGS-2000, ammunition, clips and [word indistinct].

4. We report one companero wounded in the attack, and the fact that we completely stopped the traffic on the Pan-American Highway.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

ORTEGA DENIES GOVERNMENT PURCHASE OF WEAPONS

PA211819 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, Daniel Ortega, reiterated in Managua that his country does not buy weapons or ammunition, and he thanked those countries that have supplied such weapons and ammunition for the defense of the Sandinist revolution.

On the "Face the People" radio and television program, Daniel Ortega clarified some points related to statements attributed to Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins by some Western news agencies.

According to these reports, Herrera Campins said that Nicaragua preferred purchasing arms for its security to paying its oil debts.

Nicaragua, Ortega emphasized, does not purchase weapons, but asks for international cooperation to defend its revolutionary process. Ortega said that the supply of Venezuelan oil was interrupted several months ago because of the debt. He noted, however, that Mexico has continued supplying the product, despite the fact that the Sandinist government has been unable to meet its payments.

In the same program Daniel Ortega asked the United States to demonstrate that it is truly interested in peaceful solutions in Central America, because thus far its rhetorical support to the Contadora Group peace efforts has been accompanied by a hardening of its warmongering policy in the area.

WHEELOCK ON LAND REFORM, STONE'S RETURN TO U.S.

FL211414 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Minister of Agricultural, Cattle Development and Agrarian Reform Jaime Wheelock has announced the transfer of 700,000 hectares of land to Nicaraguan campesinos next year. This is much more than the 400,000 hectares distributed this year.

Commander Wheelock emphasized the international support for Nicaragua's position. He also referred to the suspension of U.S. Special Ambassador Richard Stone's trip to the region.

The FMLN National Directorate member pointed out that Stone's quick return to Washington was due to the rejection by Central America and the rest of Latin America of Ronald Reagan's policy of force to solve the conflicts of the isthmus.

HAVANA CITES RAMIREZ ON ECONOMIC GROWTH

PA192246 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, has reported that his country has achieved an economic growth of more than 3 percent, despite the aggression against his country and the Latin American economic crisis.

Ramirez said this in Managua during the second meeting of industrial sector directors, where he also announced that industrial output had increased by more than 13 percent. [no time frames given]

BRIEFS

SUSPENSION OF SUGAR EXPORTS -- The Nicaraguan Government has decided to suspend sugar exports from the current harvest until the distribution of this product becomes normal throughout the country. The recent sugar shortage reported in this country was reportedly due to delayed sugarmill production activities and transport problems. Sugar distribution is expected to become normalized next week. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Dec 83 PA]

TEXTILE EQUIPMENT FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA -- James Zablan, director of the COIP [People's Industrial Corporation] Textile Branch, and Ivo Mach, representative of the Czechoslovakian firm Eftrojin-Import, have signed a $2.5 million contract for the purchase of 150 weaving machines from Czechoslovakia. The contract was signed within the framework of the $20 million credit line granted by Czechoslovakia to the Nicaraguan Government, which was agreed upon during the visit that Planning Minister Commander Henry Ruiz made to that country this year. [Summary] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 6 Dec 83 p 4 PA]

HUNGARIAN DONATION -- The Hungarian Government delivered a donation yesterday to the FSLN consisting of canned goods, medicine, and medical equipment. Bela Kalauz, first secretary of the Hungarian Embassy, reported that 750 first aid kits and 2 portable units for heart and blood tests were delivered, raising to 30 the number of units of medical equipment that have been received from Hungary this year. [Summary] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 3 Dec 83 p 4 PA]

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CANADA -- Canada and Nicaragua have signed a 3-year cooperation agreement to carry out a water supply and sewage program in rural areas of Matagalpa Department. Canada has contributed $631,000 and Nicaragua $4.7 million for the first phase of the program. The agreement was signed on 12 December in Managua. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 83 PA]

SOCIAL WORKERS CONVENTION -- The first convention of Central American social workers opened on 12 December in Managua. One of the objectives of the Central American social workers convention is to reactivate the Latin American Social Workers Federation as a means to oppose imperialist aggression. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 83 PA]

REPORT ON PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE

FL211340 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The Yankee military presence in Lebanon and total support for the Salvadoran regime were the subjects of President Ronald Reagan's last press conference of the year. Speaking last night in Washington, Reagan said that the Marines would be withdrawn from Lebanon when the United States had completed its objectives, which include continued assistance to Israel for Zionist aggression against the Arab peoples.

With respect to El Salvador, Reagan reaffirmed his commitment to protect the regime of Alvaro Magana, which he called a government determined to establish great changes and progress. He also announced that the Salvadoran regime had asked him for technical help to liquidate paramilitary groups such as the death squads, which are actually made up of known members of the regime itself. The CIA is aware of the murders and outrages of these groups.

Observers consider Reagan's press conference to be a preamble to his State of the Union address, planned for early next year as a preparation for the launching of his reelection campaign for the November, 1984 election.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES 'BIG PINE' MANEUVERS

PA220403 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 21 Dec 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The Big Pine II military maneuvers that began last August in Honduras with the participation of more than 6,000 U.S. soldiers has not yet ended and General Gustavo Alvarez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has already announced that new joint military maneuvers with the United States will begin next March in Honduras. The Big Pine II maneuvers are scheduled to end in February, and in the following month, March, the Big Pine III maneuvers will begin.

The official announcement of the new military maneuvers confirms that the growing U.S. military presence will continue in Honduran territory, which has been turned by Washington into a powerful war machine base to serve as a U.S. beachhead in Central America.

At a ceremony in which he was ratified as president of an anticommunist business organization called the Association for the Development of Honduras, Gen Gustavo Alvarez confirmed that U.S. troops are staying in Honduras. After announcing the Big Pine III maneuvers with the U.S. Armed Forces, Gen Alverez said that war with Nicaragua is an option to be considered. A few days earlier, this anticommunist organization, presided over by the chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, had recommended a military solution against Nicaragua, which Gen Alvarez considered a healthy idea.

Not in vain has the United States more than doubled its military aid to the Honduran regime. This year U.S. aid to the Honduran authorities was $34 million; next year it will be $44 million.

Gen Alvarez' threatening statements become more serious as the military maneuvers in that country assume a more offensive character. These maneuvers -- which have consisted, among other things, of landing exercises, simulated attacks against a people's organized resistance, and conventional warfare -- have been carried out in zones near the Salvadoran border.

Another very serious aspect of these maneuvers is the fact that the Armed Forces of El Salvador and Guatemala, which will also participate in Big Pine III, are participating in the final stages of Big Pine II. These maneuvers are the first joint military action of the member countries of the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, which has been reactivated by the United States, with the exclusion of Nicaragua.

Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, recently said that his country could make no more peace proposals than the ones it has already made to the Contadora Group. Nicaragua has offered to reach joint agreements for the evacuation of advisers, the reduction of arms, an end to military maneuvers, a halt to the installation of military bases, and the implementing of measures to prevent the danger of a war that no one could prevent from spreading to the rest of Central America.

The danger of a war in Central America is seriously becoming a reality, because of the growing provocations by the imperialists and their allies in the area.

ANPP BEGINS REGULAR SESSIONS, CASTRO ATTENDS

FL212013 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The Fifth Regular Period of Sessions of the Second Legislature of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] began this morning in the Palace of Conventions. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended this morning's session.

The martyrs of Grenada were honored during this morning's session.

[Begin Bravo recording] I am proud of the heroic attitude of the 24 Cubans who gave their lives defending our patriotic and internationalist ideals, and of the wounded and prisoners who returned to the fatherland after having given an example of their strength to all countries throughout the world.

Today, when all our strength is being channeled into creative work and into the sugar harvest, which must be one of the best in our history; when each man and woman is trying to achieve the optimum use of resources; when everyone is making every effort to save and to achieve greater productivity and quality, the continuous imperialist threat confirms that there is the need to give maximum strength and immediate attention to the task of defense.

We ask for 1 minute of silence to honor the comrades who heroically fell in Grenada. [end recording] [The deputies then stand up and observe 1 minute of silence]

Deputy Antonio Martinez, president of the Constitutional and Juridical Affairs Commission, submitted the dictum on the National Symbols Law, and both the dictum and the law were unanimously approved.

[Begin Castro recording] There is one thing that I believe the symbols represent for each and every struggle, because if we are only going to review the historical aspects, then the flag was the flag of Narciso Lopez -- do not forget this -- and that it was redeemed with the blood of those who fought 10 years of heroic war, in '68 and '95. Everything else became the symbol of the patriots. The origins must not be sought.

We also fight under the Cuban flag, the Cuban coat of arms, and the Cuban hymn. In other words, they do not represent just a part of history, they represent history as a whole. [end recording]

[Begin Bravo recording] Well, if no one else wishes to speak about the dictum, let us vote on it.

Those who are in agreement lift one hand. Those who are against. Those who are abstaining. Remember, the passage that is being drafted by (?Armando) is still pending. [end recording]

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH VIETNAM

FL211254 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The protocol of the seventh session of the Intergovernmental Commission for Cuban-Vietnamese Cooperation was signed last night in Havana. Joel Domenech, vice president of the Council of Ministers and Tran Quynh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, signed the protocol for their respective countries.

Cuban-Vietnamese cooperation occurs in the fields of public health, agriculture, livestock raising, basic industry -- especially the mining and chemical industries -- statistics, computation, local crafts, and communications.

Joel Domenech said that the Cuban delegation to the talks was deeply satisfied with the exchanges agreed upon, which have permitted an expansion of cooperation. Iran Quynh stated that the results of the talks were doubly praiseworthy, because they were achieved during hostilities and the blockade imposed by the United States on the Cuban people, who are economically productive and who defend their country with unequalled courage, while they give international aid to other countries.

Hanoi Reports on Accord

BK221003 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA Dec 21 -- The 7th session of the Vietnam-Cuba Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation closed in Havana Tuesday after seven days sitting.

The minutes of the session were signed by Tran Quynh, member of Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Joel Domenech Benitez, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice-president of the Council of Ministers, respectively heads of the two government economic delegations.

The two also signed an agreement on the joint implementation of the "common agreement on cooperation among the member countries in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance for the quick developments of science and technology in the Republic of Cuba".

PERUVIAN APRA LEADER PRAISES CUBAN REVOLUTION

PA201854 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Armando Villanueva, leader of the Peruvian American Revolutionary Popular Alliance, APRA, said in Havana on Monday that his visit to Cuba is the realization of his desire to return to Cuba, which he visited for the first time in 1959.

Villanueva said that during his first visit, he realized that Fidel Castro was a continental patriot because of his struggle to unite the Latin American and Caribbean peoples.

Villanueva said that the 25 years of Cuban Revolution are honored and celebrated by all Latin American revolutionaries, adding that one of the greatest achievements of the Cuban revolutionary process is its capacity to defend itself.

BRIEFS

WIDER SALE OF MAGAZINE -- The theory magazine CUBA SOCIALISTA, published by the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party [PCC], is now on sale throughout the country. Armando Carr, member of the Politburo and minister of culture, in his article, "Notes on Our Socialistic Political Culture," offers a wide and fundamental analysis on the essential aspects that characterize the main points of our political-cultural revolution. Severo Aguirre, member of the Central Committee, writes on a most important subject: various problems relating to the arms race and peace, where he reveals the U.S.' strategy of justifying the arms race. Gilberto Diaz, vice president of the Central Planning Board wrote an article entitled: "The State Management System in Cuba," in which he presents a documented analysis of the process of management training and development. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1514 GMT 21 Dec 83 FL]

BARBADOS

CENTRAL BANK REPORTS BALANCE OF TRADE DEFICIT

FL212158 Bridgetown CANA in English 2115 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Bridgetwon, Barbados, Dec 21 (CANA) -- Barbados' balance of trade deficit declined 13.2 million dollars (one Bds dollar; 50 cents U.S.) for the first nine months of the year from the corresponding figures for 1982, according to the island's Central Bank. The latest issue of the bank's "financial and economic statistic" showed that for January to September 1983, the deficit was 421.3 million dollars, down from last year's nine-month total of 434.5 million dollars.

Total imports for the first nine months of this year were put at 874.5 million dollars, up from 823.5 million dollars for the same period in 1982, an increase of 51 million dollars.

Exports for the period January to September rose by 69.4 million dollars when Barbados exported some 457.8 million dollars, compared with 388.4 million dollars for the same period last year.

At September 1983, the last month for which figures were given, the balance of trade deficit was 38.3 million dollars, down from 54.6 million for September last year.

Imports for the same month reached 112.6 million dollars and exports 74.3 million. Exports rose from the 33.3 million dollars for October last year, while imports were up from 87.9 million dollars in 1982.

GRENADA

SCOON DESIGNATES LAMBERT ATTORNEY GENERAL

FL212221 Bridgetown CANA in English 2155 GMT 21 Dec 83

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 21 (CANA) -- Grenada Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon today appointed Supreme Covert Registrar Denis Lambert to act as attorney general and director of public prosecutions, authoritative legal sources said.

His appointment came sixteen days after British-born constitutional lawyer Anthony Rushford suddently quit as attorney general -- a post he had been appointed to only last month. Rushford, whose services were made available through the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC), was also an ex-officio member of the new Grenada Government.

The sources said Lambert will advise the nine-man interim administration from time to time when called upon, but will not sit in the government. No official confirmation of his appointment was immediately available. Lambert will assume his new duties tomorrow.

Lambert was appointed registrar in 1980. He served as a legal assistant to the Government of Antigua from 1961-67 before moving to the British colony of Montserrat as the island's attorney general for the next three years. He also held the post of director of public prosecutions in Grenada from 1970-79 under the rule of deposed Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy before moving to the post of registrar of the Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, sources close to the governor-general said today that Sir Paul has already agreed on the person to be named shortly as the supervisor of elections. They said the man tipped to be given the job is the deputy registrar of the Supreme Court, Roy Chasteau. The governor-general, according to these sources, is already working on the instrument of appointment of Chasteau, whose job will be to oversee Grenada's next general elections planned for after May next year.

HAVANA CITES REPORT OF CIA MURDER OF BISHOP

PA211330 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Text] In its most recent publication, the weekly (NEW WAVE), published in India, charged that the CIA, following orders from the White House, perpetrated the murder of the late prime minister of Grenada, Maurice Bishop. According to (NEW WAVE), the CIA hired (Stephan St Paul), chief of the prime minister's personal guard force, and one of his subordinates to kill Bishop.

In Paris, British Labour Party Deputy (Jeremy Coleman), who recently visited Grenada, said that the Grenadian provisional government would not allow him to visit political prisoners and said that several people have been kidnapped for interrogation by the U.S. occupation forces.

Meanwhile, the daily CHRONICLE, edited in Georgetown, Guyana, noted that the withdrawal of the U.S. 82d Airborne Division from Grenada was a distraction maneuver which does not change the colonial status Washington has imposed on that Caribbean country.

JAMAICA

SEAGA RAPS COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT ON GRENADA

FL212140 Bridgetown CANA in English 2110 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Dec 21 (CANA) -- Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga has accused the Commonwealth Secretariat in London and its head, Shridath Ramphal, of pressuring the interim administration in Grenada to withdraw foreign troops before it gives technical assistance to the eastern Caribbean island.

"The Commonwealth Secretariat appears to be exercising pressure, if not blackmail on the interim administration, as if it is a new colonial power, to determine that foreign forces, including those from Jamaica and Barbados, must be all withdrawn from Grenada," Seaga told visiting journalists Saturday.

A report of the meeting was made available to CANA today.

"I have been advised that this is the position taken by the Commonwealth Secretariat. I intend to confront them with this," Seaga said at the briefing.

Jamaica was among seven Caribbean countries that provided a token force in support of the U.S. invasion of Grenada late October to dislodge the left-wing military rulers that had taken power in a bloody coup in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and a number of his colleagues were killed. There are about 800 troops and policemen from the U.S. and the Caribbean nations still in a "peacekeeping role" in Grenada.

The services of Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the interim government, and British-born Anthony Rushford, who resigned suddenly as attorney general earlier this month, were provided by the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Seaga made it clear that only the Grenadian authorities could demand that his country's forces leave the island. "I want them (the Commonwealth Secretariat) to understand that only the people of Grenada, speaking through their administration, can tell us to go. I accuse them of what I always accuse Mr Ramphal -- gross meddling in the domestic affairs of Grenada, and advise him to restrict his operations within the parameters provided by the Commonwealth Secretariat. It is not a colonial power that can give imperial direction, Seaga said.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

OFFICIALS OPEN TALKS WITH GRENADIAN DELEGATION

FL212338 Bridgetown CANA in English 2337 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec 21 (CANA) -- Talks between a three-man delegation from the Advisory Council, which has been running Grenada since November, and a Trinidad and Tobago team of senior government officials opened here today with the Grenada mission optimistic about a successful conclusion.

The Grenada council is seeking cooperation in economic and technical areas to help rebuild the Spice Island in the aftermath of a U.S.-led invasion which toppled the short-lived military junta that took over from executed leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Delegation leader Arnold Cruickshank, who is the Advisory Council member responsible for agriculture, said his team was "quite sure" that in this Christmas season when it was customary for people to exchange gifts, that "Trinidad and Tobago would not send us away empty-handed."

The delegation includes Lauriston Wilson, Advisory Council member responsible for finance, trade, and planning, and Jimmy Emmanuel, Grenada high commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago.

Cruickshank told CANA the meeting was being held to discuss "certain areas of technical assistance" in terms of personnel for strengthening some of Grenada's institutions. He listed legal administration as one of the areas.

Cruickshank said the Grenada delegation would also ask Trinidad to stop demanding that Grenadians wishing to enter the oil-rich Republic obtain visas. The visa requirements were imposed in protest against the Army takeover in the Spice Island. A ban on Grenada-registered vessels from using this country's Caribbean Community (Caricom) jetty facilities has already been lifted.

A statement from the Ministry of Information here said the two countries would discuss areas of technical and economic cooperation.

Asked today whether the Grenada delegation would be seeking direct money aid, Cruickshank said his team would leave this up to the Trinidad and Tobago Governments. "We'll raise these areas (of technical and economic cooperation," the Grenada delegation head remarked, "but we'll leave it to Trinidad and Tobago to suggest areas in which they might be able to assist." He added: "It's an open-ended situation."

In discussion with the Grenadians today were acting Permanent Secretary in the Foreign Ministry Chris Thomas, Agrulculture Ministry Permanent Secretary Dr Patrick Alleyne, Chief Immigration Officer Cecil Wilson, Director of Political and Economic Affairs in the Foreign Ministry Lingston Cumberbatch, and Finance Ministry official Harold Atwell.

BOLIVIA

COB REQUESTS AMNESTY FOR GUERRILLAS, PEASANTS

PY220246 Paris AFP in Spanish 1344 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] La Paz, 21 Dec (AFP) -- The Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) appealed today for the release of seven alleged leftist guerrillas who were recently captured in the subtropical town of Luribay and of all peasants who are being held without trial. Urging the president to use the powers bestowed upon him and appealing to his Christian faith, the COB asked him to decrease a general, unrestricted amnesty for Christmas.

In a communique, the COB added that this measure should benefit those who are being held without trial and those who were branded as Luribay guerrillas and were tortured -- despite being citizens of a democratic regime -- by the Bolivian Army in open violation of their human rights.

A recent petition asking that the seven detainees -- among them two Chilean citizens -- be placed under the jurisdiction of a court of law was unsuccessful. They are being prosecuted by a standing military court for illegal possession of arms.

MEXICO

PEMEX REPORTS REVENUE FROM OIL EXPORTS

FL212111 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1740 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 21 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex' revenue from exports of crude oil and petrochemicals amounts to $16.4 billion, Pemex Director General Mario Ramon Beteta has announced. He added that this figure is higher than the one reported in 1982 by nearly $12.5 billion, and that the exports of crude increased this year by 1.5 million barrels while exploitation amounted to 2.75 million barrels.

He also stated that this year $2 billion were paid [for amortization] of the foreign debt, and that his administration had fulfilled all programs of exploration, exploitation, industrialization, and commercialization of hydrocarbons, above all, observing efficiency standards.

He said this year his administration had saved 166 billion pesos (more than $1 million) as a result of renegotiation of prices, cancellation of services, reduction in the cost of vessels' charters, and cancellation of oil storage facilities abroad, as well as the use of intermediaries.

For 1984, the official said the parastatal enterprise will budget 610 billion pesos (43,812,500,000) for operations and 552 billion pesos (approximately $3.45 billion) for investments. He announced that the oil reserves amount to a total of 72 billion barrels of hydrocarbons, calculated in accordance with technical methods used by oil-producing nations in the world, including the United States, Great Britain, and France. He added that for the first time ever Pemex had placed (turbosinas) and diesel abroad.

Finally, he reiterated that Mexico will not join OPEC because its oil policy has been firm as an independent country; however, he acknowledged the cartel's importance in the international oil market.

VENEZUELA

PRESIDENT ON SUSPENSION OF OIL TO NICARAGUA

PA220030 Paris AFP in Spanish 0018 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Caracas, 19 Dec (AFP) -- President Luis Herrera Campins noted tonight that Venezuela suspended its oil supply to Nicaragua because Nicaragua's security problems are causing it to buy weapons instead of paying its oil bill.

The president said that Venezuela is an oil producer and an exporter with many clients, to whom it gives the same treatment, and that it respects its commitment to keep prices and production below OPEC ceilings.

He mentioned the San Jose Pact on oil cooperation for Central America and the Caribbean signed by Mexico and Venezuela, declaring that this pact benefited Nicaragua, and noting that it neither set conditions nor sought to bring the benefiting countries into the signatories' sphere of influence.

He recalled that initially the agreement established that the beneficiaries had to pay 70 percent of the oil bill, the rest to be paid in long-term credits. This was later changed to an initial payment of 80 percent, the remaining 20 percent payable in credit.

He stated that Nicaragua's level of debt does not permit Venezuela to continue to supply it with oil. "It is clear that Nicaragua chose to pay for its weapons, for the sake of its security, instead of paying for the oil," he said. He added that this is how they arrived at a situation that Venezuela never wanted or sought. The problem, he stressed, "has been this, then, and never political." To make an exception for Nicaragua could result in claims from other clients, which Venezuela wants to avoid, he concluded.